

To Committee Chair Rep. Becker-Finn and committee members,

I am a retired ob/gyn physician who supports removal of abortion restrictions as described in HF91. These restrictions needlessly interfere with the doctor-patient relationship and appropriate medical care.

In particular, I want to address repeal of statute 145.4242, which specifies an informed consent script that Minnesota physicians must follow when providing abortion care. Physicians know that this script contains medical inaccuracies and that it is designed to discourage people from having an abortion. To knowingly misinform a patient goes against basic medical ethics. Yet the state has required us to do just that. Abortion is the only medical procedure for which politicians have dictated, in detail, the content and direction of an informed consent discussion.

HF91 also repeals other restrictions that harm patients and serve mainly as barriers to abortion. I ask that you vote yes on this bill and thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony. Please enter my comments in the public record.

With appreciation for your public service,

Susan Cushman, MD
Golden Valley, MN